

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., OCTOBER 19, 1934

The third meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1935 was held in its office in the Navy Department Building on Friday, October 19, 1934. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Clarke,
Mr. Lawrie,
Mr. Howells,
Mr. Savage,
also H. P. Caemmerer,

Executive Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a. m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The minutes of the meeting, held September 17, 1934, were approved.

2. MURAL PAINTINGS FOR THE ARCHIVES BUILDING: Mr. Moore submitted the following report of his conference with Mr. Pope in regard to the mural paintings for the Archives Building:

The letter of the Commission of Fine Arts to Mr. Pope disapproving sketches for the mural decorations to go in the Rotunda of the Archives Building has led to the requirement of a restudy of both subject and treatment--a result not unexpected by and quite satisfactory to the architect.

At Mr. Pope's request Mr. Moore spent October 10 and 11 with him at Newport, during which time Mr. Pope was in telephonic communication with Mr. Faulkner. It was informally agreed that two new studies should be prepared for submission to the Commission of Fine Arts.

The first panel is to present the Declaration of Independence; the second, the Constitution. These are general terms used to connote the spirit in which those historic documents were produced.

The discussion covered a broad range. It was thought:

That the decoration and architectural effects are a prime consideration.

That the pictorial possibilities should be utilized.

That a consistent historical theory should be adopted and, when adopted, should be maintained.

That the composition should hang together, be vital in conception, and at all points consistent; so that unity shall be attained and each figure be an integral portion of one composition.

That it might be a consideration to the artist that whereas the Declaration was adopted in the midst of war and was intended as a justification of that war and an encouragement to those striving to win success; on the other hand the aim of the Constitution was to bring enduring peace at home and abroad, founded on an efficient central government maintained with due regard to the rights of the States. It was thought that such a distinction between the two panels might afford both opportunity and inspiration to the artist.

It was realized fully that the working out of these fundamental ideas would take time and be a process beset by many difficulties. It would make heavy demands upon the artist in the way of trial, study and restudy. But also it was felt that with time and patience Mr. Faulkner was capable of executing the work in such manner as to enhance the significant character of the Rotunda as designed by the architect. By so doing he would through the beauty of art express and inculcate emotions of patriotism and patriotic achievement. Thus he would rise to opportunities certainly unsurpassed by any offered heretofore to the mural painter in America.

Mr. Moore said this memorandum was designed to put spirit into Mr. Faulkner's work.

Mr. Savage said that it is his impression that Mr. Faulkner is going ahead with the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution conceptions but that he is also continuing with his original idea that each of the panels will represent a group of the founders of the American Government. Then if the Treasury Department and the Commission of Fine Arts feel that this is unsatisfactory, Mr. Faulkner will be quite willing to undertake a completely different scheme.

Mr. Moore said he felt the study he saw of Mr. Faulkner's revised sketches at Newport is very much better than the original. Mr. Clarke said he thought it would stimulate greater interest to have each panel represent a single idea--to be a unit rather than a representation of static figures.

Mr. Moore sent a copy of the memorandum to Mr. Pope. Mr. Pope advised by long distance telephone that he will have a talk with Barry Faulkner about the matter with a view to carrying out the recommendations as set forth in the memorandum.

3. LANDSCAPE PLAN, WHITE HOUSE GROUNDS: Mr. Moore read his report regarding an inspection of the White House Grounds on October 9, 1934, as follows:

October 9, 1934.

At the time of the restoration of the White House in 1902, the unsatisfactory condition of the grounds was recognized, but owing to lack of funds, changes were made only in connection with the front driveway. This matter was discussed from time to time in the Commission of Fine Arts. Out of these discussions grew Frederick Law Olmsted's confidential report to Col. U. S. Grant 3d, then Officer in Charge of Public Buildings and Grounds, on the condition of the White House grounds. The general conclusion then expressed by Mr. Olmsted was that as successive enlargements of the grounds were made during the past century and a quarter, no consistent or adequate plan ever was formulated. In consequence the design (or lack of design) and the haphazard manner of successive changes have brought those grounds into conditions inferior to those existing in most private estates of any importance in this country. Both in driveways and walks, the White House grounds seemed to him defective.

Copies of this confidential report I gave first to Mrs. Coolidge and then to Mrs. Hoover without eliciting active consideration. On reading the report Mrs. Franklin Roosevelt brought the matter to the President, who called in Mr. Olmsted during the spring of 1934. During the summer of this year the White House office building was being enlarged under the architectural direction of Mr. Eric Gugler.

Mr. Olmsted having prepared a tentative report, based on examinations made by him, (some of them in company with Mr. Gugler and Mr. Moore) President Roosevelt arranged personally to go around the White House grounds and discuss the situation with Mr. Olmsted, Mr. Gugler, Mr. Moore and members of the President's White House staff, including Lieutenant Locke in personal charge and Mr. Peterson, architect of the National Park Service. The examination was made on the afternoon of October 9, 1934, under the President's direction.

It was the consensus of opinion that: The inner one of two driveways south of the White House may be eliminated.

The main driveway may be narrowed directly south of the White House, so as to give more room for a box garden to be arranged so as to be appurtenant to the President's office and the Cabinet Room.

That the east and west driveway near the Fountain be subdued.

That the planting around the Fountain be kept low, so as to create no disturbance in the vista.

That the south vista be opened in the grounds by the elimination of now obstructing trees. That the vista open to the public be enlarged to approximately 150 feet, giving the finest possible view of the White House.

That a high solid hedge be planted so as to screen the grounds at the east and west sides, leaving open only the south vista. Thus the concentration of the view to one point would add to its interest and effectiveness so far as the public is concerned. At the same time the privacy of the grounds, so necessary to the conception of the residence of the President, will be secured.

That those trees which have outlived their beauty and usefulness be replaced by trees preferably those keeping their greenness through the winter. The tulip poplar, the magnolia and certain varieties of pine were favored.

The President drew on his experience at his estate of Hyde Park on the Hudson, and his love and knowledge of trees. Apparently the expedition was successful in bringing about complete agreement between the President and Mr. Olmsted as to the general features of the restoration, with the approval of the other participants.

Mr. Clarke believed that the hedge around the White House grounds should be evergreen and recommended the Carolina Hemlock, which is better suited to this climate, and grows well towards the bottom. Mr. Moore cited several

instances of hemlock hedges of another variety in Washington which had to be taken out because they became so scraggly. Mr. Clarke said that yew would be the very best but that very likely there is not enough of it in the whole country to make a hedge of such great length. Mr. Moore told of the hedge in Mr. Peabody's garden of 1820 at Dandridge. Mr. Clarke said that that is a beech hedge, which, however, would not do for the White House grounds as there are too many shade trees.

Mr. Moore said that he desired the Commission to inspect the grounds later in the day, and this was done.

A copy of the report sent to the President by Mr. Olmsted was received. It sets forth Mr. Olmsted's recommendations as to what should be done to improve the White House grounds.

4. NEW INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING: Under date of October 18, 1934, the following letter was received from Mr. A. E. Demaray, Acting Director of the National Park Service:

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman,
National Commission of Fine Arts,
Navy Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

Mr. Wood is making arrangements to present the recently completed preliminary drawings for the new Department of the Interior Building to the National Commission of Fine Arts on October 19th. These drawings have been prepared from the sketches indicating the general ground plan, height, and exterior arrangements of the building, which were approved by the Commission of Fine Arts on the occasion of its July meeting; although, of course, the present drawings have been developed considerably more in detail. However, no essential changes from the sketches previously approved have been made.

It is requested that your Commission review Mr. Wood's preliminary drawings, and that you advise me as to your approval of the same; or otherwise as to any changes which you consider necessary before your approval can be granted.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) A. E. Demaray,
Acting Director.

The plans were brought to the office of the Commission by Mr. Waddy B. Wood, architect, with whom the Commission considered them. Mr. Howells noted that Mr. Wood had carried out the suggestions made by the Commission at a former meeting with reference to the design. Mr. Howells was well pleased with Mr. Wood's design.

In addition to two large perspectives of the building Mr. Wood submitted floor plans and several sketches showing parts of the interior arrangement of the building. The building is designed for a location on 18th Street between C and E Streets, N. W., and construction on it will start within a few months. It will be 563 feet long by 358 feet wide, with six wings each 55 feet wide projecting into 18th and 19th Streets, 73 feet high to the cornice line and will have a 24-foot setback. A narrow 8th story on the middle of the roof will bring the height to 111 feet and the pent-house to $117\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

The south and north fronts are given a monumental (classical) treatment with stylobate, cornice and parapet wall. The building is to be built of Indiana limestone. A corridor is to extend through the center of each floor. There will be approximately 2,200 rooms and about 5,000 windows. Mr. Wood said he desired to have a window for every person in the building.

The south facade showed 13 seals along the parapet wall for the 13 original Colonies. Each seal is to be about four feet in diameter.

The Secretary of the Interior has allotted \$10,000,000 for the construction of the building. While space for offices in the building has not been finally assigned, the officials of the Department of the Interior and the architect are arranging to provide offices for the Commission of Fine Arts in the building, including a large exhibition room on the 7th floor along C Street.

The Commission approved the design and a report was sent to the National Park Service. (Exhibit A)

5. UNION SQUARE: Mr. Olmsted submitted his completed design for Union Square to the Commission. He said that this plan carried the inner roads into Union Square area. In this area there will be an island surrounding the Grant Monument, this island being about 700 feet in diameter and of lima bean shape. He said he tried a great many designs for squaring up the island but all resulted in a peculiarly shaped plaza, so he departed from a rectangular treatment and carried the general contours of the Capitol Grounds into this area.

Mr. Olmsted said that the difficulty is that the Grant Monument was placed on a line drawn not from the dome of the Capitol but from the center of the west facade of the Capitol to the Washington Monument. If the dome is taken for the center, the divergence of the axis is quite apparent. He said everything built on the Mall since has been lined up on an axis with the dome, resulting in a discrepancy of about four feet. The inner Mall roads aim at the Cavalry and Artillery groups but do not hit them exactly. The design must start off symmetrically and somewhere lose four feet.

Mr. Olmsted said that he, therefore, made a wide path at the base of the monument to receive the roads.

Mr. Olmsted believed his scheme better than any of the former schemes involving a trapezoidal shape. The National Capital Park and Planning Commission have approved the preliminary plan submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts at the meeting on September 17, which is the basis of the plan presented today. The Commission on Enlarging the Capitol Grounds approved the original scheme and there is danger that the funds appropriated by the Public Works Administration will lapse unless the Capitol Commission can approve this plan. Mr. Moore suggested that the Commission on the Capitol Grounds be polled for a vote.

Mr. Olmsted suggested that if this new plan cannot be approved soon that certain grading and planting be done up to a certain point on the plan, leaving it possible to carry out the more structural parts of the plan later. It was noted that this plan calls for no gateway treatment and terrace wall between the Capitol Grounds and the Union Square area.

After Mr. Olmsted left, the Commission discussed his plan. Mr. Clarke said the reason for a great plaza has been eliminated because of the placing of the Grant Monument at the head of the Mall. In regard to the new Union Square plan he said that it really gives a nice transition but that he did not like the treatment of the area around the Grant Monument and thought it should be more architectural and not so gardenesque.

Mr. Moore informed the Commission that there was a fight over the location of the Grant Monument. It was first designed to go on the grounds south

of the White House. When it was decided to place it at the head of the Mall there were certain trees that had to be given consideration, hence the present location.

Mr. Clarke said at first he believed with Mr. Swartwout and Mr. Howells that Union Square should have a rigid, architectural, rectangular treatment but that Mr. Olmsted's latest plan has good scale and carries the eye right to the Capitol.

The Commission approved the plan, with the understanding that further study will be given to the treatment of the area around the Grant Monument.

In the afternoon the Commission inspected the model for Union Square with members of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and they thought it illustrated Mr. Olmsted's plan very well, although the model had not been fully completed.

A letter of approval was sent to the National Park Service. (Exhibit B)

During the session with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission it was voted by the two Commissions that the National Park Service should proceed with the work of carrying out the plan for Union Square, beginning with the grading and such other work as taking out shrubbery and moving trees.

6. PAN AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING: Mr. Clarke reported that on October 6, 1934, he and Professor Hubbard and Dr. Cret met as a committee in Washington to advise on the location of the Pan American Administration building, and that a scheme was agreed upon which he considered a happy solution of the problem and which he would recommend for adoption by both the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

The scheme agreed upon provides for locating the Pan American Administration building on the triangle at Constitution Avenue and 19th Street, the use

of which has been given over to the Pan American Union by Congress for this building. The triangle to the north on the other side of Virginia Avenue will be given a landscape treatment, rectangular in design, by taking in a portion of the northwest corner of the triangle to the south on which the Pan American Administration building is to be built. There will be no trees along Virginia Avenue between 18th and 19th Streets. This rectangular landscape development of both triangles will be bounded by the new Interior Department building on the north, the Pan American Union building on the east and the Public Health Service building on the west.

Mr. Clarke said that the committee recommended that Dr. Cret draw out a plan embodying these recommendations and present the plan at the next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Dr. Cret came from Philadelphia and submitted a general lay-out to the Commission of the scheme as had been recommended by the committee. It showed the location of the Pan American Administration building on the triangle along Constitution Avenue and in relation to the adjacent areas and also provided for the rectangular landscape treatment to the north. He presented two schemes, one showing the building 85 feet and the other 100 feet from Constitution Avenue, and described the advantages and disadvantages of each scheme. On being asked whether he had designed a facade, Dr. Cret replied that he had not because the question of location had to be settled first.

Dr. Cret said he hoped the proposed extension of the building would be forgotten and it was intimated that it would be. Mr. Clarke called attention to the rectangular landscape treatment proposed for the area to the north of the building as had been recommended by the Committee. Dr. Cret believed

that by using the triangle across Virginia Avenue, the effect can be secured.

The Commission approved Plan No. 39, which shows the location of the building 100 feet back from Constitution Avenue. A report was sent to Dr. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union. (Exhibit C)

7. AGRICULTURE EXPERIMENTAL FARM, BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND: Mr. A. D. Taylor, who has been consulting landscape architect for the new Agriculture Experimental Farm at Beltsville, Maryland, informed the Commission (Exhibit D) that Mr. E. C. Butterfield, who has been director of the Arlington Experimental Farm for years, has been placed in charge of the farm at Beltsville.

Mr. Taylor said that the feeling around Beltsville seems to be that now that the landscape service has been discontinued, they will continue the development according to their own ideas. This Mr. Taylor regarded very unfortunate. The real difficulty he said was that they have run out of funds although according to the Washington Post of October 19, the Secretary of the Interior has made an additional allotment of \$450,000. This, however, is needed to complete buildings under construction and does not allow for the services of a consulting architect or a consulting landscape architect.

Mr. Taylor asked that the Commission write a letter to the Secretary of Agriculture, expressing the Commission's endorsement of the work so far done and the hope that it will be continued under proper guidance. The Commission gave expression to their interest in the Beltsville project as having been one in which the Commission has been consulted since the new work was placed under way a year ago. The Commission decided to send a letter to the Secretary of Agriculture accordingly. (Exhibit D)

8. MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY, LIBRARY-MUSEUM BUILDING: Mr. Thomas C. Vint, Chief Architect of the National Park Service, submitted a design for a library-museum building at Morristown National Park. The museum is to be located at the end of a vista and is not to conflict with the Headquarters, a house where it is said George Washington spent a winter. The design shows a building that is small, simple and dignified; the cost is to be \$200,000. There will be an arcade extending from each side to small end buildings. A discussion followed as to the material to be used. It was noted that the design had been made in the office of John Russell Pope. Mr. Vint said Mr. Eggers considered painting the brick but decided in favor of stucco. Mr. Clarke thought it inadvisable to put stucco on brick as the stucco will crack and break off. Mr. Vint said the National Park Service cannot build of wood because of danger from fire. It was finally decided to leave the question of material to be decided by Mr. Pope's office and the National Park Service. A report approving the plan was sent to the National Park Service. (Exhibit E)

9. NEW BUILDING FOR THE WAR DEPARTMENT: The Secretary reported that on October 5, 1934, Captain Field of the Architectural Branch of the Quartermaster General's Office, telephoned, saying that Quartermaster General Bash desired to submit sketches for a new War Department Building, which is to be erected between E and F Streets and 19th and 22nd Streets, N. W. He said the Secretary of War had approved the location. The secretary said he called Captain Field's attention to the fact that this would mean tearing down two large apartment buildings opposite the Interior Department Building on 19th Street. Captain Field replied that this is true but the cost of the land would be less than what was contemplated in a plan of the National Capital

Park and Planning Commission in locating the building in the Naval Hospital area, where there are two or three very large apartment buildings.

Subsequently General Bash asked that he be permitted to consider this matter with the Commission at the November meeting.

10. SIGN FOR HEURICH'S BREWERY: The secretary submitted an application (No. 337) from the Building Inspector of the District of Columbia, by which the Heurich Brewing Company proposes to erect a sign on the building at 26th and D Streets, N. W., the sign to be 55 feet long by 14 feet high. It was proposed to place this sign on the edge of the roof of the Brewery facing the Lincoln Memorial and it was to be a neon sign.

Attention was called to the fact that the size of the sign far exceeds the 25 square feet limit decided upon by the Commission of Fine Arts for signs within the Shipstead-Luce Act area; also that this is a roof sign. The application was, therefore, disapproved and the Building Inspector was notified accordingly.

11. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS: The National Park Service submitted a number of miscellaneous landscape plans, as follows:

1. Cole Branch Bridge, Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Grading plan and plan for loop structure--site 6x, project 1-A-2.

2. Plan for bridge, Deep Creek project.
3. Planting plan for Banneker Recreation Center, bathhouse area.
4. Planting plan, Takoma Park recreation center.
5. West Potomac Park landscape plan for treatment of area adjacent to the Ericsson Memorial.

These plans were brought to the particular attention of Mr. Clarke, who inspected them and upon his recommendation the Commission approved them.

12. PANELS FOR THE ARCHIVES BUILDING, BY MR. AITKEN: Under date of October 12, 1934, the following letter was received from Mr. Louis Simon, Supervising Architect, submitting photographs of Mr. Aitken's panels:

Chairman,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

There are inclosed two photographs showing the decoration for the panels flanking the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance to the new National Archives building, this city.

Your comment and advice will be very much appreciated.

Respectfully,
(Signed) Louis A. Simon,
Supervising Architect.

The photographs were brought to the attention of Mr. Lawrie. It was noted that these models representing seated Roman soldiers on guard had been inspected by the Commission of Fine Arts at the meeting in New York City on September 17. Mr. Lawrie approved the models and upon his recommendation they were approved by the Commission. A report was sent to Mr. Simon accordingly. (Exhibit F)

13. LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR FORT DUPONT PARK: The National Park Service submitted a landscape plan for Fort Dupont Park (on the east side of the Anacostia River), which is being developed as a portion of Fort Drive. Mr. C. Marshall Finnan, Superintendent of the National Capital Parks, said that the Civilian Conservation Corps will take care of Fort Dupont this winter to the extent of developing the picnic areas and building roads to

them. This development will not interfere with the tree nursery area.

Mr. Clarke suggested building only one road now. The plan was approved.

14. LIGHTS FOR THE MALL: Mr. Finnan submitted a revised design received from the General Electric Company for a light standard for the Mall. The design had been drawn along lines heretofore suggested by the Commission but the designer put in two detached rods which made the lamp look as if it were suspended. Mr. Lawrie objected to this and drew a sketch showing the rods attached to the globe as part of the framework and also changing the design to improve its appearance. This also gave the lamp a more substantial appearance. It was suggested that the top of the vertical upright supporting the top of the light be terminated as a leaf. Also a suggestion was made as to the method of clamping the circular part of the bracket and simplifying the ornament at the juncture of the lamp post and the globe. A new design, embodying these suggestions, is to be made and submitted to the Commission.

15. INSPECTION OF THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICES: The Commission made a trip of inspection to the White House to see the construction work on the new executive offices. Mr. Eric Gugler, architect of the project, accompanied the Commission. The work is well under way and is to be completed in another month. The Commission felt that so far as the exterior is concerned, the new building will harmonize with the White House proper.

Mr. Gugler pointed out the President's room and the new cabinet room as also the several rooms for secretaries. Mr. Gugler also showed the Commission the proposed mail and file room which has been built around a small inner court. Mr. Gugler asked the Commission's advice about a fountain that has been placed in the court and it was agreed that the carver should be requested to make certain modifications to improve its appearance.

Mr. Moore pointed out various features that had been considered during a conference with the President about 10 days previous as to the proposed landscape plan for the grounds. The Commission congratulated Mr. Gugler on the results of the construction work, carrying out his design.

16. JOINT MEETING WITH THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION:

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts met with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon. The following projects were considered:

a. Plan for Development of the Plaza in the Triangle at 12th Street:

The plan was brought to the attention of both Commissions by the Director of Highways of the District of Columbia, who wished to widen 12th Street at the point proposed for the circle. The design for the circle had been made by Bennett, Parsons and Frost, architects, for the Board of Architectural Consultants and it was said that it was not satisfactory to the District Commissioners. Mr. William Adams Delano, who was present at the meeting and who is also a member of the Board of Architectural Consultants, felt that the Board had not sufficiently considered the design in matters of detail and it is to be given further study.

✓ b. Union Square Plan. Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted submitted the plan that he had presented to the Commission of Fine Arts in the morning. It was regarded satisfactory by the members of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and after an inspection by both Commissions of the model which Mr. Olmsted had made to illustrate the scheme, the plan was approved with the suggestion that the area around the Grant Memorial be given some further study; also that the National Park Service be authorized to proceed with the work to carry out the plan.

c. Pan American Administration Building. Dr. Cret submitted the plan he presented to the Commission of Fine Arts in the morning, showing the location of the proposed Pan American building on the triangle at Constitution Avenue and 18th Street and in connection with this the proposed landscape development for the triangle across Virginia Avenue to the north. It was stated that the Commission of Fine Arts had adopted the plan at the morning meeting and it was also adopted thereupon by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. That Commission will give particular attention to street widening problems involved in the project.

d. Columbia Island. The plan for Columbia Island which had been prepared by Mr. Clarke and has been approved by the Commission of Fine Arts, was again brought to the attention of both Commissions to point out certain changes in grading that had been made at the north end of the island so as to provide parking space for those who would visit the adjacent Theodore Roosevelt Island, which is to be reached by a small footbridge. This change made in the Columbia Island plan was approved. It was also pointed out that it would be possible to lay out roads provided for in the plan, to run north and south from Columbia Island proper and it was agreed that it would be a good thing if these roads could be built now. The National Park Service is to secure funds for building the roads.

Attention was also called to the fact that the State of Virginia in cooperation with the Bureau of Public Roads is planning to build the road along the north side of Arlington National Cemetery, the road connecting the Lee Highway with Columbia Island.

The Commission adjourned at 4:30 p. m.

C O P Y

October 19, 1934.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the completed preliminary drawings for the new Department of the Interior Building, which were submitted in your behalf by Mr. Waddy B. Wood, architect.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. A. E. Demaray,
Acting Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT A

C O P Y

October 22, 1934.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on October 19, 1934, Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted submitted a plan for the development of Union Square. The Commission approve the plan. There are a few minor changes to be made in the treatment of the area adjacent to the Grant Memorial, but that is a matter of detail.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT B

C O P Y

October 22, 1934.

Dear Dr. Rowe:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 19, 1934, considered with Dr. Cret his plan (sketch No. 39) for the location of the Pan American Union Administration Building, and its orientation in the triangle at Constitution Avenue and Nineteenth Street. The Commission approved the plan, with the understanding that details as to the grounds will be attended to when the design for the building comes before the Commission.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Dr. L. S. Rowe,
Director General,
Pan American Union,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"CHIEF OF BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY"
AND REFER TO

October 19, 1934.

Mr. Charles Moore,
Chairman, Fine Arts Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

Re: Program of plans for landscape development at Beltsville Research Center.

I am sending this memorandum to you for your information with reference to the program of planning for the landscape development at the Beltsville Research Center. All work on this project, through PWA funds to be expended through the Division of Animal Husbandry, has been stopped. Other work is now in progress on some parts of this property through the expenditure of PWA funds by other Bureaus who will conduct experimental work at this Research Center.

The employment of consulting landscape services has been terminated and there is some question concerning the time when further consulting services may be continued or the arrangement in which they may be continued, if at all.

A preliminary general plan, dated August, 1934, has been prepared for the general development of this property based upon such information concerning existing conditions of requirements for future developments as has been available to date. A large number of detail plans have been completed for specific projects and there is much additional study which should be devoted to the completion of the general plan on the basis of which this entire landscape development will continue toward completion, and there are many detailed studies and much field supervision necessary in order to assure the kind of results which have been desired by your Commission and by those in charge of this project for the Department of Agriculture.

I have compiled a somewhat lengthy and detailed report covering this work done to date and the work which should be undertaken if and when any funds or labor are available to further develop this property.

I think you will be interested in having in your files a copy of the general study to the point where it has been completed to date and I think a copy of the report may be available from the office of the Animal Husbandry Division.

The new Director, Mr. Butterfield, is very much in sympathy with the employment of further consulting services in connection with the program of landscaping plans and I hope to have further conferences with him shortly.

Very truly yours,



A. D. TAYLOR

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

October 23, 1934.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

At the request of the Department of Agriculture, November 17, 1933, the Commission of Fine Arts have been giving advice to the officials of the Department in the matter of the Beltsville Research Center. After personal examination of the lands and consultations on the ground with the members of the Department staff, this Commission found that the haphazard character of the development of the two units already begun, had convinced your staff that the extent and importance of the project called for as comprehensive, orderly harmonious development of the entire area. This was made the more necessary by the fact that community features and functions are required. The rolling character of the lands made necessary an economical arrangement of roads according to the topography. The wooded portions offered opportunities for comfortable locations for residences. The fact that the Baltimore-Washington Boulevard as planned passes diagonally through the property, promises to give attractive connections with the two great cities.

Especially the many hills furnish sightly locations for laboratories and insure a maximum of light and air.

The result of these conferences disclosed a common view of the importance and the unique opportunities of this proposed development.

EXHIBIT D-1

Thereupon the Commission advised that Delos Smith be appointed architect for the project. The Commission knew him as a designer well versed in Maryland architecture and a man of competence and good taste. For the landscape work the Commission advised the employment of A. D. Taylor of Cleveland, Ohio, temporarily employed in Washington.

As the plans have been prepared by these men and presented by your representatives, entire harmony has prevailed between them and this Commission. The requirements of the Department have been met, and at the same time a convenient, well ordered and attractive scheme has been outlined and in part constructed.

The results thus far have been so eminently satisfactory that the members of this Commission urge that the working arrangements made with Delos Smith and A. D. Taylor be continued to the completion of the project. It would seem a pity not to use the continued services of two men who have worked so harmoniously with your officials and with the architects and landscape architect of this Commission, and who have produced and are producing results so highly creditable to the Department of Agriculture. Such a presentation of good order, effectiveness and economy should be of great value to the science and practice of Agriculture.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Hon. Henry A. Wallace,
Secretary of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

October 24, 1934.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 19, 1934, approved the design submitted by your office for the library--museum building at Morristown, New Jersey.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. A. B. Cammerer, Director,
National Park Service,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT E

C O P Y

October 22, 1934.

Dear Mr. Simon:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 19, 1934, inspected the two photographs, which you submitted with your letter of October 12, showing the decoration for the panels flanking the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance to the new National Archives Building. The Commission saw the models of these panels at the studio of Mr. Aitken at a meeting, held in New York City last month. The Commission approve the models.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Louis Simon,
Supervising Architect,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F

